

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating mammalian conditions characterized by decreases in bone mass, said method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective bone mass-increasing amount of a biologically active peptide consisting essentially of the formula selected from:

(a) $X_{01}\text{Val}X_{02}\text{GluIle}X_{03}\text{LeuMetHis}X_{04}X_{05}X_{06}\text{Lys}X_{07}\text{LeuAsnSerMetGluArgValGluTrpLeuArgLysLysLeuGlnAspValHisAsnTyr-NH}_2$ (~~SEQ. ID. NO. 31~~ SEQ ID NO:31);

(b) a fragment of SEQ ID NO:31 containing the subsequence:

$X_{01}\text{Val}X_{02}\text{GluIle}X_{03}\text{LeuMetHis}X_{04}X_{05}X_{06}\text{Lys}X_{07}\text{Leu}$

~~analogues or fragments thereof, containing amino acids 1-15, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18, 1-19, 1-20, 1-21, 1-22, 1-23, 1-24, 1-25, 1-26, 1-27, 1-28, 1-29, 1-30, 1-31, 1-32, 1-33, or 1-34;~~

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof; or

(d) N- or C-derivatives thereof; wherein:

X_{01} is Gly, Ser, Ala or Aib;

X_{02} is Ala, Ser or Aib;

X_{03} is Asp, Glu or Lys;

X_{04} is Asp, Glu or Lys;

X_{05} is Arg, Har or Leu;

X_{06} is Ala or Gly;

X_{07} is Trp or His.

2-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said peptide is administered in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein X_{01} is Ser.
19. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein X_{02} is Ser.
20. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein X_{05} is Leu.
21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein X_{06} is Gly.
22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein X_{07} is His.
23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein X_{01} is Ser, X_{02} is Ser, X_{05} is Leu, X_{06} is Gly, and X_{07} is His.
24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein X_{03} is Glu and X_{04} is Lys.
25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein said peptide is administered in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
26. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said condition is osteoporosis.
27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said condition is old age osteoporosis.
28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said condition is post-menopausal osteoporosis.

29. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said peptide is administered parenterally.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is administered subcutaneously.

31. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is administered by nasal insufflation.

32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said peptide is administered intravenously.

33. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said peptide is administered in an amount of about 0.01 $\mu\text{g/kg/day}$ to about 1.0 $\mu\text{g/kg/day}$.